

[Teater, Harry M.]

FATAL WRECK ON THE N.Y. & P. RAILROAD!

Crash of Passenger Train into a Freight, Near Genesee, Friday,
Cost the Life of Harry Teater. Young Man of This Place so Terribly Injured
He Lived But Two Hours. Father Reached His Side Before Death Came.
Was Respected and Well Liked. Funeral Was Held Monday and Attended by Many.
Numerous Floral Offerings.

The worst wreck in the history of the N.Y. & P. Railroad occurred Friday morning, a half mile east of Genesee, and in it Harry Teater of this place lost his life. The young man had charge of his father's produce business at Genesee and boarded the freight train that he might reach that place earlier than on the passenger. The freight was in charge of extra conductor Lewis Horton. When nearly to Genesee the caboose and several cars were left on the main track while the crew was doing some switching. For some reason no flag was put out to protect the portion of the train left and the passenger, which was in charge of Conductor Kuhn and Engineer Kemp, crashed into it. Teater was the only passenger in the caboose. This car was crushed like an egg shell, while the engine toppled over on its left side in the ditch. Engineer Kemp fell upon his fireman, L. L. Beckwith, who for a few moments was unable to assist himself. After helping him out he heard Teater call and hastened to his aid. A heavy spring pinned him to the ground. He was terribly injured across the hips and suffered from internal injuries. Considerable of his clothing was stripped from his body.

The injured man was quickly carried to Genesee to the home of W. B. Daily and medical aid summoned. Dr. H. D. Hart of Genesee, also Dr. L. G. Probasco of this place and Dr. F. E. Comstock of Wellsville hurried to the scene, as did also the father, William Teater of this place. It was at once seen that nothing could be done by medical or surgical science, and death came at 12:40 to relieve the sufferings of the unfortunate young man.

A representative of THE NEWS was upon the scene shortly after the accident occurred. The crash came on a curve that bears to the left which cut off the engineer's view of the track very far ahead. In fact, the fireman was the first to see the cars on the track and he called to the engineer. The engine was reversed, but as the train was probably making 35 miles per hour down some grade, it was impossible to bring it to a stop.

Fireman Beckwith said that the train accident occurred probably at 10:29 or 10:30, while Engineer Kemp stated that it was 10:35 or not far from that.

[Two paragraphs about nearby train wrecks are omitted here.]

Harry M. Teater was a son of Mr. and Mrs. William [Kathryn/Kate Reilly] Teater and was born January 15, 1884, at this place. Besides the parents, there survive him four brothers and two sisters, Frank, William Jr., Raymond and Harold, and Ellamae and Sophia.

[Teater, Harry M.]

He was a young man who had many friends and a particularly sad feature of his untimely death was that he was to have been united in marriage with Miss Cynthia Slayter, New Year's.

The funeral was held from the Universalist church, Monday afternoon, Rev. J. [James] D. Herrick officiating, assisted by Rev. F. M. Baker. Interment was made in Rural cemetery.

There were many beautiful floral offerings. The Whitesville Club, of which he was a member, the I.O.O.F., of which his father is a member, the Universalist Ladies' Aid, the N.Y. & P. Ry. Company and others presented these tokens of esteem.

Harry will live long in the memory of his friends, as the large attendance at the funeral would show. A large number of out of town friends were present: among them V. A. Teater and A. L. White of Hornell, Mr. and Mrs. T. R. McDonald and Thomas McCaffrey of Rexville, William Riley of Pittsburg, C. F. Chapman, L. L. Richmond, Mr. and Mrs. W. B. Daily and daughter, Ed Daily and daughter, C. G. McGinnis, Ira Easton, and Arthur Borden of Genesee. THE NEWS was unable to get the names of others.

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Transcribed on 4 Feb 2015 by Karen E. Dau of Rochester, NY